

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W
-----079900 140225Z /20

R 131709Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1706
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6810

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, SP, AG, SS
SUBJECT: POLISARIO DEL IN MADRID CLAIMS USG NOT OPPOSED

REF: MADRID 6653

1. FONMIN OFFICIAL CASSINELLO TOLD EMBOFF SEPT 13 THAT THE POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVES VISITING HERE (THEY HAVE NOW LEFT) SUBSEQUENTLY TOOK THE LINE WITH SOME INSISTENCE THAT THE USG HAD CHANGED ITS STANCE REGARDING THEM, WAS NO LONGER HOSTILE, AND INDEED LOOKED WITH SOME FAVOR ON POLISARIO ASPIRATIONS. INDICATING THERE HAD BEEN RECENT USG-POLISARIO CONTACTS, THE VISITORS ASSURED SPANISH INTERLOCUTORS THAT SPAIN NO LONGER HAD TO WORRY ABOUT OFFENDING THE US BY OPPOSING MOROCCO, ACCORDING TO CASSINELLO, THE ASSERTION WAS THAT MOROCCO WAS NOW COMPLETELY ISLOATED.

2. EMBOFF MADE NO COMMENT OTHER THAN TO INDICATE HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO SUPPORT SUCH A CONTENTION. CASSINELLO, EVIDENTLY SURPRISED AND SKEPTICAL AT THE POLISARIO CLAIM. REQUEST EMBOFF TO REPORT IT AND ASK FOR WHATEVER COMMENT
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MIGHT BE PASSED BACK TO HIM.

3. CASSINELLO ALSO SAID THAT AS PART OF THEIR PITCH FOR SPANISH ASSISTANCE THE POLISARIO REPS HAD ALLUDED VAGUELY TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT IF THEY BECAME DESPERATE ENOUGH THEY WOULD HAVE RECOURSE TO "THE DEVIL" WHICH APPARENTLY WAS A REFERENCE TO CUBA. NEITHER CASSINELLO NOR ANOTHER MINISTRY

OFFICIAL I WITH WHOM EMBOFF TALKED, AND WHO HAD ALSO TALKED WITH THE POLISARIO REPS (HE RECENTLY SERVED IN ALGIERS) HAD ANY GUESS AS TO WHAT SORT OF ASSISTANCE FROM CUBA THE POLISARIO MIGHT WANT. CASSINELLO THOUGH THIS PART OF THE POLISARIO PITCH WAS PROBABLY JUST A SCARECROW TACTIC.

4. EMBOFF ALSO TALKED PREVIOUSLY WITH THE MINISTRY'S SUBDIRECTOR GENERAL FOR NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST (CAJAL) ABOUT THE NEWS OF THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE LUSAKA OAU SPECIAL SUMMIT. CAJAL SAID THEY AS YET HAD NO DIRECT INSIDE INFORMATION ON WHAT WAS BEHIND IT, BUT HE WAS INCLINED TO ATTRIBUTE IT TO SKILLFUL MOROCCAN DIPLOMACY, WHICH INTER ALIA HAD SOUGHT TO EXPLOIT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ETEKI AND BONGO ON THE CALLING OF THE CONFERENCE. EATON

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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